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## SALT RIVER PIMA-MARICOPA INDIAN COMMUNITY BREAKS GROUND ON NEW SPRING TRAINING BASEBALL FACILITY

**Celebration Marks Important Milestone in Indian Country** 

**SALT RIVER PIMA-MARICOPA INDIAN COMMUNITY** —With shovels in hand, representatives from the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community (SRPMIC), Arizona Diamondbacks and Colorado Rockies officially broke ground at the site for the Community's new Spring Training baseball facility.

The baseball facility — the first in Indian Country — marks a major milestone for the SRPMIC which hosted a ground-breaking ceremony today at the ballpark site.

With panoramic mountain views, the facility is located at 7555 N. Pima Road, just west of the Loop 101 Freeway and north of Indian Bend Road adjacent to The Pavilions shopping center on the Salt River Indian Community just east of Scottsdale.

The ceremony included traditional social songs of the Pima and Maricopa tribes and a turning-of-the-ground ceremony with SRPMIC President Diane Enos and Vice President Martin Harvier, along with D-backs President and CEO Derrick Hall and Rockies President Keli McGregor.

"This project is an important addition to our Community," said Diane Enos, President of the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community. "It is already proving to be a dynamic draw for economic development for our commercial corridor and we look forward to hosting spring training games and many other fine events that will be held here all during the year. "

The event featured an informational booth on the project and renderings of the 11,000-seat capacity ballpark, which will feature 12 practice fields and office buildings with Major and Minor League clubhouses, training facilities and offices for each team.

"The accessibility and interaction between our fans and players at this new facility will be second to none," Hall said. "When construction is complete in 15 months, fans will truly consider this one-of-a-kind complex to be the 'Disneyland' of all spring training facilities throughout Major League Baseball."

Project representatives were on hand to answer questions about the innovative facility that promises to give baseball fans a unique spring training experience unrivaled anywhere in Major League Baseball. The project is already being touted as a dynamic draw for economic development within the Salt River Indian Community's western commercial corridor.

"The complex will provide for our fans and organization the best pure spring experience in Major League Baseball," Rockies President Keli McGregor said. "We're excited to be a partner in building a world-class facility with the D-backs and Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community."

The facility was designed by HKS Architects, a firm that designed Glendale's Camelback Ranch spring training facility and Cowboys Stadium in Dallas.

Mortenson Construction is the general contractor for the project. Mortenson's recent projects include Glendale's Camelback Ranch facility, built for the Los Angeles Dodgers and Chicago White Sox.

For more information about the project, visit www.srpmic-nsn.gov/economic/springtraining/

## **About the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community**

Bounded by the cities of Scottsdale, Tempe, Mesa and Fountain Hills, the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community encompasses 52,600 acres, with 19,000 held as a natural preserve. With two distinct backgrounds and cultures, the Community is comprised of two Native American tribes: the Pima, "Akimel O'Odham" (River People) and the Maricopa, "Xalychidom Piipaash" (People who live toward the water). The Community proudly owns and operates several successful enterprises including Salt River Sand & Rock, Phoenix Cement Co., Talking Stick Golf Club, Salt River Financial Services, Saddleback Communications, Salt River Devco, Casino Arizona at Salt River and Salt River Landfill.

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